1 ARTICLE 19 OF THE AGREEMENT ON TRADE FACILITATION

1.1 Text of Article 19

Article 19: Shifting Between Categories B and C

1. Developing country Members and least-developed country Members who have notified provisions under Categories B and C may shift provisions between such categories through the submission of a notification to the Committee. Where a Member proposes to shift a provision from Category B to Category C, the Member shall provide information on the assistance and support required to build capacity.

2. In the event that additional time is required to implement a provision shifted from Category B to Category C, the Member may:

(a) use the provisions of Article 17, including the opportunity for an automatic extension; or

(b) request an examination by the Committee of the Member’s request for extra time to implement the provision and, if necessary, for assistance and support for capacity building, including the possibility of a review and recommendation by the Expert Group under Article 18; or

(c) in the case of a least-developed country Member, any new implementation date of more than four years after the original date notified under Category B shall require approval by the Committee. In addition, a least-developed country Member shall continue to have recourse to Article 17. It is understood that assistance and support for capacity building is required for a least-developed country Member so shifting.

1.2 Article 19.1: Shifting Between Categories B and C

1. To date, twenty-eight (28) Members have presented notifications under this provision. All types of notifications under the TFA can be found in document series: WT/PCTF/N/* and G/TFA/N/*. They are also publicly accessible through the Trade Facilitation Agreement Database (https://www.tfadatabase.org/).

Current as of: January 2021